



AGENDA

Ordinary meeting of the

Nelson City Council

**Thursday 12 February 2015
Commencing at 9.00am
Council Chamber
Civic House
110 Trafalgar Street, Nelson**

Membership: Her Worship the Mayor Rachel Reese, Councillors Luke Acland, Ian Barker, Ruth Copeland, Eric Davy, Kate Fulton, Matt Lawrey, Brian McGurk, Paul Matheson (Deputy Mayor), Gaile Noonan, Pete Rainey, Tim Skinner, and Mike Ward

Opening Prayer

Apologies

1. Confirmation of Order of Business

2. Interests

- 2.1 Updates to the Interests Register
- 2.2 Identify any conflicts of interest in the agenda

3. Public Forum

- 3.1 Education Nelson Tasman and Education NZ

Tony Gray (CEO, NMIT), Cathy Ewing (Principal, Nelson College for Girls), Scott Haines (Principal, Motueka High School), and Greg Scott (Business Development Manager, Education NZ) will present the purpose and goals of Education Nelson.

4. Mayor's Report

5. Audit of Consultation Document

5-51

Document number A1309730

Recommendation

THAT the report Audit of Consultation Document (A1309730) and its attachments (A1262170 and A1258046) be received;

AND THAT Council approve the Consultation Document for Nelson City Council's Long Term Plan 2015-25 for audit;

AND THAT the Mayor and Chief Executive be delegated to make any minor editorial changes required.

6. Temporary Road Closures

52-58

Document number A1308395

Recommendation

THAT the report Temporary Road Closures (A1308395) and its attachments (A1309946, A1309949) be received;

AND THAT Council either approve/decline the application for the Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon temporary road closure of Beach Road from 17 Beach Road to Golf Road, and Golf Road from Beach Road to Parkers Road and Hounsell Circle, on 8 March 2015;

AND THAT Council either approve/decline the application for the Organised Safe Stopping Site Distance Demonstrations temporary road closure of Nile Street on 16 March 2015, Bisley Walk on 17 March 2015, Tipahi Street on 19 March 2015.

PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

7. Exclusion of the Public

Recommendation

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Item	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interests protected (where applicable)
1	<p>Chief Executive Employment Committee – Public Excluded Minutes – 21 November 2014</p> <p>These minutes contain information regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Assessment 2013/14 • Chief Executive Remuneration Review 	<p>Section 48(1)(a)</p> <p>The public conduct of this matter would be likely to result in disclosure of information for which good reason exists under section 7</p>	<p>The withholding of the information is necessary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7(2)(a) To protect the privacy of natural persons

8. Re-admittance of the public

Recommendation

THAT the public be re-admitted to the meeting.

Audit of Consultation Document

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To approve the Consultation Document for Nelson City Council's Long Term Plan 2015-25 for audit.

2. Recommendation

THAT the report Audit of Consultation Document (A1309730) and its attachments (A1262170 and A1258046) be received;

AND THAT Council approve the Consultation Document for Nelson City Council's Long Term Plan 2015-25 for audit;

AND THAT the Mayor and Chief Executive be delegated to make any minor editorial changes required.

3. Background

- 3.1 Under changes made in the Local Government Amendment Act 2014 Council is required to consult with the community on its 10 year plan through a Consultation Document. This changes the previous requirement of the Local Government Act 2002 that a draft Long Term Plan be the basis for consultation.
- 3.2 The Consultation Document is required to "provide an effective basis for public participation in local authority decision-making processes" relating to the Long Term Plan. It needs to explain key issues taking guidance from Council's Significance and Engagement Policy (see Attachment 1) as to what might be included, provide options for consideration and give information on how Council proposals will impact on rates and debt. It needs to include a summary of Council's financial strategy, its infrastructure strategy, changes to funding arrangements (which include changes to development contributions), changes to levels of service and changes to rates and debt levels.
- 3.3 Before the Consultation Document can be released to the public for feedback it must contain a report from the Auditor General on whether it meets its purpose and on the quality of the underlying information and assumptions.

4. Discussion

- 4.1 The Consultation Document (Attachment 2) reflects the guidance provided through Council workshops 19 to 22 January 2015 on the content of the Long Term Plan 2015-25. Audit New Zealand has requested one month to complete the audit of the document and propose to commence that process on 16 February.

5. Options

- 5.1 Development of a Consultation Document is a legal obligation under sections 93B and 93C of the Local Government Act 2002. Council can choose to delay the release of the Consultation Document to Audit but that would put at risk the remainder of the timetable for completing the Long Term Plan within statutory timeframes.

6. Assessment of Significance against the Council's Significance Policy

- 6.1 This is not a significant decision in terms of the Nelson City Council's Significance Policy as it only allows the content of the document to be reviewed by Audit New Zealand.

7. Alignment with relevant Council Policy

- 7.1 The Consultation Document is an essential part of the development of the Long Term Plan 2015-25 which will set out Nelson City Council's 10 year work programme.

8. Consultation

- 8.1 Consultation with the community will occur after the Consultation Document has been audited.

9. Inclusion of Māori in the decision making process

- 9.1 Consultation with Maori will occur during the public consultation phase, following audit.

10. Conclusion

- 10.1 It is recommended that the Consultation Document be approved for audit.

Nicky McDonald
Senior Strategic Adviser

Attachments

Attachment 1: Significance and Engagement Policy [A1262973](#)

Attachment 2: Consultation Document [A1258046](#)



Significance and Engagement Policy

November 2014

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This Significance and Engagement Policy lets both Council and the community identify the degree of significance attached to particular decisions, to understand when the community can expect to be engaged in Council's decision making processes, and know how this engagement is likely to take place.

2. Introduction

- 2.1. The Local Government Act 2002 states that one role of a Council is to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities. This Policy explains how Council will decide the level of significance that a matter has, the types of matters where the community will be involved in the decision-making process and when the community can expect Council to make a decision on its behalf.
- 2.2. There are many informal ways that Council engages with the community during its everyday business which helps to inform it on community views. There are also decisions that a Council must make which require a more structured form of engagement. This is because of the importance that a matter has within the wider community, or for groups within the community.
- 2.3. The first part of this policy sets out how Council will decide whether or not a matter is "significant". The second part of this policy sets out when and how the community's views will be heard on these significant, and other, matters.

3. Determining Significance

- 3.1. Local authorities must make decisions about a wide range of matters and most will have a degree of significance, but not all issues will be considered to be "significant". An assessment of the degree of significance of proposals and decisions, and the appropriate level of engagement, will therefore be considered in the early stages of a proposal before decision making occurs.
- 3.2. Council will take into account the following matters when assessing the degree of significance of proposals and decisions, and the appropriate level of engagement:
- Whether the asset is a strategic asset as listed in schedule two of this policy;
 - The impact on levels of service provided by Council or the way in which services are delivered;
 - The degree of impact on Council's debt or the level of rates it charges;
 - Whether the decision is reversible and the likely impact on future generations;
 - The impact on the community, how many people are affected and by how much;
 - Whether the decision or action flows from, or promotes, a decision or action that has already been taken by Council or furthers a community outcome, policy or strategy;

- Is there a past history or reasonable expectation of the issue generating wide public interest within the district.

It may be that only one of the criteria applies, but to such a high degree that the decision will be considered "significant". Conversely, several criteria may be applicable, but to only a low degree, and therefore will be considered to have a lower level of significance. Each decision will involve staff making an assessment for consideration by elected members. Schedule one of this policy sets out how the criteria will be used to assess significance.

4. Community Engagement

- 4.1. The ways engagement can take place are varied and will be in proportion to the significance of the matter being considered.

Special Consultative Procedure

- 4.2. There are still situations where the Special Consultative Procedure must be used under the Local Government Act 2002:

- Adoption or amendments to the Long Term Plan;
- Adoption or amendment to a significant bylaw;
- Transfer of ownership of a significant strategic asset;
- Changes to financial policies.

- 4.3. There are also statutes which require the special consultative procedure to be followed in specified situations including:

- Resource Management Act 1991;
- Rating Powers Act 1988;
- Building Act 1991;
- Sale and Supply of Liquor Act 2012;
- Psychoactive Substances Act 2013;
- Dog Control Act 1996;
- Waste Minimisation Act 2008;
- Freedom Camping Act 2011;
- Land Transport Management Act 2003;
- Energy Companies Act 1992.

- 4.4. It is important to note that formal consultation using a special consultative procedure is a structured process outlined in legislation and supported by case-law. In other engagement processes, however, there are no explicit statutory or legal rules constraining or defining community engagement processes. The Local Government Act 2002 has given local authorities the ability to determine this as appropriate for their communities.

Engagement on Other Matters

- 4.5. Outside of matters where it remains mandatory for a special consultative procedure to be undertaken, Council will determine the appropriate level of engagement on a case by case basis.
- 4.6. Council may decide that it will use a special consultative procedure if the matter is of high significance, or it may choose another form of appropriate consultation. In instances where significance is judged to be moderate, engagement with the community could involve consulting through an advisory committee or focus group, public meetings, or surveys.
- 4.7. When Council decides that a matter is of low to moderate significance, or in instances where it is considered that the views of the community are already known, it may make a decision on behalf of the community and then inform the community of the outcome. This may be, for instance, through publication on the Council website, in the local media, or other appropriate means.

5. Principles of Engagement

- 5.1. In any engagement process undertaken with the community, that engagement will be in proportion to the matter being considered. When any engagement takes place, other than simply providing information, we will:
- Seek to hear from everyone affected by a decision;
 - Ask for views early in the decision making process so that there is enough time for feedback to be provided, and for this to be considered properly;
 - Listen and consider views in an open and honest way;
 - Respect everyone's point of view;
 - Provide information that is clear and easy to understand;
 - Consider different ways in which the community can share views with us;
 - Ensure that the engagement process is efficient and cost effective.

6. Information Requirements

- 6.1. Council will ensure that, when conducting any engagement or consultation process in relation to a significant decision, it provides:
- Clear information on what is being proposed and why it is being proposed;
 - Sufficient information on which to provide meaningful feedback;
 - The advantages and disadvantages of each option being considered;
 - What impacts, if any, will occur if the proposal goes ahead;
 - How the community can provide its views;
 - The timeframe for completing the community engagement or consultation;
 - How submitters and participants can learn about the outcome.

7. Engagement with Iwi

- 7.1. Council will take into account its obligations as outlined under legislation including Te Tau Ihu Claims Settlement Act 2013 and all other relevant Acts. Council will also take into account National Policy Statement Frameworks, and will honour all engagement processes, agreements and memorandums of understanding developed with Maori as they relate to its decision-making processes.

8. Definitions Used in This Policy

Community	A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common. Includes interested parties, affected people and key stakeholders.
Decisions	Refers to all the decisions made by or on behalf of Council including those made by officers under delegation. (Management decisions made by officers under delegation during the implementation of council decisions will not be deemed to be significant).
Engagement	Is a term used to describe the process of seeking information from the community to inform and assist decision making. There is a continuum of community involvement.
Significance	As defined in Section 5 of the LGA 2002 in relation to any issue, proposal, decision, or other matter that concerns or is before a local authority, means the degree of importance of the issue, proposal, decision, matter, as assessed by the local authority, in terms of its likely impact on, and likely consequences for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) <i>The district or region;</i> (b) <i>Any persons who are likely to be particularly affected by, or interested in, the issue, proposal, decision, or matter;</i> (c) <i>The capacity of the local authority to perform its role, and the financial and other costs of doing so.</i>
Strategic Asset	As defined in Section 5 of the LGA 2002 in relation to the assets held by the local authority, means an asset or group of assets that the local authority needs to retain if the local authority is to maintain the local authority's capacity to achieve or promote any outcome that the local authority determines to be important to the current or future well-being of the community, and includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Any asset or group of assets listed in accordance with section 90(2) by the local authority; and</i> (a) <i>Any land or building owned by the local authority and required to maintain the local authority's capacity to provide affordable housing as part of its social policy; and</i> (b) <i>Any equity securities held by the local authority in</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. <i>A port company within the meaning of the Port Companies Act 1988;</i> II. <i>An airport company within the meaning of the Airport Authorities Act 1966.</i>

Schedule One: Assessing Significance Against Criteria

Criteria	Higher Significance	Lesser Significance
Change in levels, or delivery, of service provided by Council.	There is a major and/or long term change to services.	There is a medium to low level of change to services.
Level of financial impact.	There is a major and long term financial impact.	There is a medium to low level of impact.
Impact on the community.	The decision would have a major impact on sections or all of the community.	The impact on the community is medium to low.
Decision involves a "strategic asset" as listed in this policy.	The decision involves the sale or transfer of more than 20% of a strategic asset.	The decision does not impact on the Council's ownership of the asset.
Impact on Council debt or level of rates.	The impact is major and/or long term on either debt levels or rates.	The impact is of a medium to low level
Reversibility of decision.	The decision is irreversible and would impact negatively on future generations to a high degree.	The decision is not irreversible, or if it were, the impact on future generations would not be high.
Building on previous decisions.	The matter is considered to be significant by other criteria, and has not been previously consulted with the community.	The decision or action is consequential to, or promotes, a decision or action already taken by Council or the views of the community on this matter are already known.
Historic interest.	There is a history of the matter generating wide and intense public interest and a reasonable expectation that this will again be so.	There is no history of the matter generating widespread interest.

Schedule Two: List of Strategic Assets

The Local Government Act 2002 definition of a strategic asset is outlined in the Significance and Engagement Policy.

The list of assets outlined below are considered to be “strategic assets”, however not all decisions made regarding them will be significant. For example, the road network is strategic but the purchase or sale of small land parcels that make up the network may not amount to a significant decision.

- Water supply catchments and supply network as a whole;
- Wastewater network as a whole;
- Stormwater and flood protection network as a whole;
- Land transport network as a whole;
- Ownership of community housing;
- Ownership in the Nelson Airport Company;
- Ownership in the Nelson Port Company;
- Ownership of Nelmac Ltd.

DRAFT

AN EVEN BETTER PLACE TO LIVE

Planning Nelson's future

Consultation Document for Nelson's Long Term Plan 2015-25



Nelson City Council

te kaunihera o whakatū

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What Does This Document Contain?

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Nelson’s Future

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Key Issues Where We Need Your Feedback

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2. City Infrastructure
3. Developing the City
4. Partnerships
5. Strong Economy

Key Relationships

Your Rates

Council’s Finances

Development Contributions

Infrastructure Strategy

Audit Opinion

Submissions

Foreword from the Mayor

This document sets out Nelson City Council’s plans for the city’s future. It summarises the principles and key issues that have influenced our decision making. The key projects from Council’s draft 10 year plan are described. We need your feedback to understand if we have it right.

We are indeed fortunate to live in an attractive, growing region that people are proud to call home. Our beautiful environment and creative spirit keeps us here, and continually attracts new residents and visitors. We want to know how, together, we can chart the course to making this an even better city.

Nelson is the main urban centre at the heart of Te Tau Ihu (Top-of-the-South) but with our current population and despite strong population growth we are a long way from being a major centre. Our Achilles’ heel is that 50,000 Nelsonians have the aspirations of a city of 200,000 people.

I am not surprised that the number of projects we would like exceeds our ability to pay. I’d like them too. But we must balance the investment needed to make Nelson an even better place with affordability for ratepayers. Our first review of the 10 year forecast rates increases and debt projections told us we had to cut our cloth a little differently. We’ve asked our partner agencies to reduce their funding needs also.

This Plan outlines significant investment in core infrastructure. That's important to all of us. We propose an extra \$25 million for stormwater and flood protection. We can't stop the extreme weather events hitting us – but we can be better prepared. We're spending an extra \$9 million on wastewater pump stations to keep the network in good shape. There's also \$5 million on footpaths – an investment you've already told us matters to you.

As a unitary authority, Nelson has a wider range of functions than most councils. In the Plan, our regional council functions get a much higher priority with the introduction of our environmental programme, Nelson Nature. The review of our Nelson Plan and its resource management functions provides an opportunity to look for a more integrated approach to how our city develops. This will include reviewing how our CBD works. We will look for opportunities to encourage more business and residential activity there.

Meanwhile, the reassessment of our economic development services (including tourism, marketing and events) brings the opportunity for integrated delivery out of a single agency. We know from looking at Auckland Tourism Events and Economic Development (ATEED) that there are more benefits from integration than there are in separation. Growing our economy is a critical success factor for Nelson. I am committed to leading a business-friendly Council that is an enabler, cutting red-tape and supporting local business.

One way Council already helps our entrepreneurs is by facilitating links to important trading partners. This year, after a Council-led business delegation to China is completed, we'll be initiating China Week, when we can all share in this flourishing relationship. Look out for an exciting week celebrating our growing cultural, business and tourism links with that vast economy.

Partnerships help stretch resources further. For that reason, they are a cornerstone of this Plan. The contribution of willing partners in funding, or time, or other support for projects, makes it possible for Council to justify committing your hard-earned rates dollars.

Last year, the Nelson Gigatown campaign demonstrated we have some really innovative thinkers who are passionate about our future. As Mayor, I am keen for Council to partner with these people over the long term via a Mayoral Taskforce on City Futures. This group will look to identify opportunities for enhancing the city's economic and social vibrancy. They will meet quarterly, with their work informing future Annual Plans, Long Term Plans and Council work programmes.

Such fresh approaches will be key in achieving what we want for our city.

As we have put the Plan together, we have also recognised there are gaps. I had hoped the review of Council's property holdings that was commissioned last year would have informed this Plan. That work is taking longer than expected but it is important to get it right. We will give effect to any priorities through future Annual Plans.

Similarly, some of the estimates in the Plan are just that: estimates. The preparation of a business case for each major project is a new step in our process, and there has not been time to move all projects through this process in preparation of this Plan. Council will consider each business case as it comes to hand and before any major projects are approved.

This Plan makes provision for a number of initiatives in Stoke, the most exciting of which may be the construction of a community facility at Greenmeadows. Stoke is the fastest growing area in Nelson, and I am pleased Council has allocated funds for this facility, along with proposing an extension to the Stoke library and a youth park.

Whatever the projects and plans Nelson City makes, we have to take the broader regional view. The divisions between Nelson City and Tasman District Councils only make sense on paper, and not to our people who move across that 'dividing line' every day. To create the future both Nelson and Tasman needs, we must think, work and plan as one region. That connected approach will evolve further over the life of this Plan.

Right now we need to focus on delivering the programme of work that improves Nelson, but I believe that council amalgamation is a given at some future time. I suggest that 2017/18 would be the right time to consider amalgamation again – it is important that we hear from you on this issue.

I'd like to end by thanking you for taking the time to read about our city's Plan and for any feedback you may give. This Plan will only come to life if it truly reflects the wishes of its community.

Kaua e rangiruatia te hāpai o te hoe; e kore tō tātou waka e ū ki uta - do not lift the paddle out of unison or our canoe will never reach the shore.

Rachel Reese
Mayor of Nelson

About the Plan

The draft 2015-2025 Long Term Plan ("Plan") has been put together after many hours of reviewing budgets and projects, checking data and information, talking with the community and drawing on what you have told

us is important. It has not been easy to keep the final package of projects and services affordable.

We believe this Plan has the essentials needed: a balance of core infrastructure to keep Nelson safe and functioning well, along with projects that enhance the city and make it exciting and welcoming. It has a long term rather than a short term focus.

This plan spends time explaining the financial choices. Inevitably there are gaps and uncertainties within the Plan: projects that need more analysis, property holdings that need examining, major central government projects (eg the Nelson Southern Link) or further legislative reform. As these projects mature you can expect to see necessary adjustments in coming Annual Plans. Rest assured that we will engage with you early on any changes that are needed and keep you informed of how you might be affected.

We want you to tell us if we've got the Plan right. We have put together this document so you can see the key decisions we face, the options for dealing with them and what Council's approach will be. Are there particular things you support or would add, remove or change in the Plan?

Written submissions from the public will be read by the Mayor and Councillors. Hearings will be held for those who want to speak directly to Council about their submission. By June this year, Council will have considered every submission and amended the Long Term Plan as appropriate to take into account your feedback ready for the financial year starting on 1 July 2015.

For information on ways to have your say, and how to find out more about proposed projects and their different options, go to the very back of this document.

Nelson's Future

Nelson is blessed with a wonderful climate, an enviable location, a positive economic outlook, a foundation of good local facilities and a growing population. It's a city that lots of people want to visit or settle in.

The demographics of our community are changing as New Zealand's population ages. The median age of Nelson's population is expected to increase to 46 years over the next two decades and by then almost a third of us will be over 65 years old. Alongside that the number of children in Nelson continues to rise, if more slowly. Half of Nelson's growth in the next two decades will be from inward migration as our city bucks the trend of declining growth in many regional centres around New Zealand.

So we need to be planning now to make sure our community has the facilities and services it needs as it changes, to ensure we are attractive to all generations. Our commitment to being a welcoming city for all ages extends from building youth events into our Festival programmes to the work we are collaborating on to make Nelson an age-friendly city.

To keep Nelson a great place to bring up future generations of children we want to make sure our city is a safe and fun place for youth to be. Thinking of those future generations, we have taken a long term perspective to many decisions, a perspective that exceeds a 10 year planning horizon.

That long view has led to Council stepping up its commitment to important Regional Council responsibilities that protect our natural resources. You will see issues such as flood protection, biodiversity and water management all receiving higher priority from this Council. The review of the Nelson Plan will be an opportunity to look for a more integrated approach to how our city develops and our natural resources are managed.

This Council accepts the responsibility to protect what is already great about our city as well as bring on projects and facilities that will take Nelson's lifestyle to the next level. We want to create a positive legacy for future generations - which means not burdening them with unsustainable amounts of debt. We also need to invest in the assets and services that will help Nelson reach its potential, and this is a careful balancing act.

Finding the Balance

One area that demonstrates most clearly the difficult decisions Council has had to balance in the Plan is flood protection. Severe weather events this decade have adversely affected many residents and we are all still paying for the repairs needed to private and city assets.

With a city built on a floodplain, development close to streams and rivers and the prospect of changes to weather patterns bringing more severe weather events, we have to accept as a community that flood risk is part of our future.

A review of stormwater and flood protection has identified a shortfall. We have a backlog of upgrade work to address. Deciding what works to undertake to protect different parts of the city is a three-way balancing act between reducing risk to property and people, affordability and the need to preserve the natural values of streams and rivers. Doing nothing is not an option - the risk in every part is too great. Doing everything in the next 10 years to upgrade our systems would increase our debt level to a point that is unaffordable.

Another example of the balance Council has aimed for is in our creative sector. One of the special things about Nelson, part of our "brand story" if you like, is our creative culture. You will see in the mix of projects Council wants to support that our focus on protecting core infrastructure is balanced with a careful and targeted investment in events and the arts to support and build our creative credentials. Changes to our much-loved Arts Festival to refresh it and grow it to a new level are set out. There is secure funding to develop Light Nelson as a key part of our cultural calendar and identity, and support for Arts Council Nelson to develop the Refinery as a community art space.

In addition to cultural benefits, Council sees real potential for these and similar events to contribute even more to our economy. We are also reviewing the operation of several key agencies involved in promoting Nelson (Nelson Tasman Tourism, the Nelson Regional Economic Development Agency and Uniquely Nelson) with the aim of boosting the economic development and marketing of Nelson.

Working Together

He waka kōtuia kāhore e tukutukua ngā mimira (A canoe that is interlaced will not become separated at the bow).

This Council wants a partnership with the community; a 'no surprises' approach that allows the community and Council to understand each others' thinking before decisions are made. As part of developing the Plan, Council met with many stakeholder groups. Hearing directly from different sectors of the community about their key challenges and aspirations for the future was hugely helpful in deciding what Council's priorities should be. We intend to continue that level of engagement and look for genuine partnerships with sectors of the community on projects that affect them. This is in keeping with the goals of Nelson 2060.

Council management has also adopted this approach, working in partnership with elected members. Asset management plans have been developed from good information, identifying gaps and leading to tighter maintenance budgets and better timing on replacing some assets. Budgets have been examined to ensure the rates are set as low as possible whilst being prudent.

Everyone involved with Council is enthusiastic about making Nelson an even better place.

In 2012 the community came together to develop the Nelson 2060 strategy. The strategy reflects the aspirations of our people for a sustainable future and as a partner to the strategy we reflect its intent in the decisions we make and the work we undertake. This plan takes some significant steps to achieving the goals of Nelson 2060. More than half a million dollars a year is being invested in biodiversity through new Nelson Nature projects. A more effective approach to funding community projects frees up \$100,000 in the first year of the plan to help residents improve their home heating and insulation.

Council has had a strong relationship with iwi in recent years. It's appropriate for us to grow that to a partnership, where we work together to contribute to each others' aspirations.

In this post-settlement era, iwi are looking for opportunities for investment both locally and nationally; equally, their investment stands to benefit us all.

In its Annual Plan 2014/15, Council commenced a property assets review. Council is about to consider this and will prioritise the required actions to ensure the community receives optimal value from the properties it holds. As

we look for ways to balance community value and rationalising property, there may be exciting opportunities to work more closely with iwi.

Similarly, iwi will be important partners in developing our approach to infrastructure; we need to work together to achieve resolution to resource management issues.

The future is bright for Nelson but it is not without some significant challenges. If we, as a community, can come together to plan and collaborate then the future we build for our very special part of the world is assured.

Key Issues Where We Need Your Feedback

The following are significant issues Council is proposing to tackle over the next 10 years where we want your feedback. They cover decisions that are likely to cost the most, be of most interest to the community or have the most impact. At the end of each section you will see any alternative options that the Council may have considered.

1. Financial Reality

Affordability has been a key concern for Council throughout the Plan's development. The first iteration of the budget considered by Council detailed a lot of infrastructural and other projects. We had to adjust the timing and scope of these to bring rates and debt levels to a point we were comfortable with.

Managing debt levels is a priority for Council. These are assessed by a credit rating agency and by retaining our existing credit rating, we attract lower interest rates on our borrowings which saves significant sums of money. It is also important to avoid burdening future generations with unsustainable levels of debt which limit their choices.

Efficiencies in how projects are delivered, spreading projects over longer timeframes, developing partnerships to spread the load from ratepayers and removing the "I might need it" budget lines are all strategies that have been used to keep costs manageable. Over the 10 years of the Plan our debt levels remain within the cap Council has set itself, of never exceeding 150% of our revenue.

Rates rises average 2.8% over the 10 years of the Plan. Council has a capped limit of rates rises never being more than 2% higher than the local government cost index. One important element in achieving reasonable levels of rating is Council's commitment to more rigorous budgeting. We only want to take from you in rates each year the amount for a realistic work programme that we can deliver.

Options: We want feedback on the approach we have taken. Council believes it delivers a good balance of maintaining existing assets while continuing to develop the new projects we agree together are needed. A more liberal

approach to budgeting would require Council to change its policy and set new, higher rates and debt caps. Alternatively if you would prefer more to be shaved off the proposed work programme please let us know which projects or services you believe should be a lower priority for the city.

2. City Infrastructure

Stormwater and Flood Protection

Recent years have seen several extreme rainfalls, ranging from the city-wide long duration event of December 2011 to the short, high intensity rain events that impacted on quite narrow bands of the city in April 2013 and June 2014. These events led to gravel being deposited in stream and river beds, blocking stormwater pipes and intake structures and general property damage from slips and flooding.

The anticipated cost to Council of recovering from recent storms is \$11.7 million after insurance and other cost recoveries. Council had to borrow for the cost of recovery works following the December 2011 severe rainfall event and then again for the April 2013 event. This borrowing is shown against a new Disaster Recovery Fund that is still in deficit. Projections showed the Disaster Recovery Fund would not have a positive balance until 2023, so an additional \$0.8 million was added last year to reduce that period. This Council remains committed to reducing the deficit in this Fund at a faster rate so funds can be accumulated to respond appropriately to future events. We believe this is important given the proven trend towards an increasing number of extreme weather events.

There is a careful balance to be struck in providing an adequate stormwater network to the city, while ensuring the work scheduled is affordable and appropriate. How much work should ratepayers fund to reduce the flood risk to city assets and private property? \$53 million is the current budget estimate to undertake an appropriate level of flood risk mitigation works (to protect against 1 in 100 year events for waterways and 1 in 20 for the piped network). Much of our piped network and waterways are well below this standard. Unfortunately, undertaking all of this work in a 10 year period would result in Council breaching its debt and rates caps¹.

We are also changing the way we rate for stormwater and flood protection so that those who have higher value assets contribute more. This will mainly impact on properties with high capital value, such as utilities like power companies, commercial properties and Council itself.

Options: Council considered continuing with current levels of mitigation and design and dealing with the aftermath of events when they happen. However this would not be financially prudent or meet all of our statutory

¹ See Fig x under Council Finances for rates and debt caps

requirements. Alternatively we could significantly increase protection by doing all the identified work and adding an estimated \$53 million to this Long Term Plan but this would take us over the total debt limit Council has set itself.

What Council proposes is to focus works in the areas already extensively modelled and where the risk to people and assets is high. There is an extra \$25.3 million in the draft 10 year Plan prioritised for works in the central city (including works on the Maitai River and the Brook, York and Little Go streams), Saxton Creek and other areas, including for minor works and interim risk reduction. There is also funding to cover modelling work on the flood risk for a number of less well-researched waterways outside the centre of the city to help design appropriate flood risk mitigation in the future. This is a managed response to risk reduction within the finances available to Council.

Upgrade of Neale and Corder Park Pump Stations

These two projects are part of critical Council functions, protecting the health of the community and environment. Sewerage from Bishopdale eastwards is piped to the Neale Park pump station and then pumped to the Nelson Wastewater Treatment Plant along the state highway north of the city. Due to the distance of Neale Park pump station from the treatment plant, the pumps have to pump at higher pressure to get the flows to the plant.

Neale Park pump station was constructed in the 1960s and identified as earthquake prone with a site layout that has contributed to ongoing odour issues in the immediate vicinity. All the original pumps have now been replaced, rather than repaired, as parts are no longer available. A new pump station is proposed for the site, incorporating modern odour control and some wastewater pre-treatment.

Corder Park pump station upgrade has begun (and will be completed in 2015/16) as part of replacing the existing pump station and in response to recent pipe failures that saw sewerage leaking out into Tasman Bay. This pump station is located mid-way between Neale Park and the Nelson Wastewater Treatment Plant and has been identified as the ideal location for a new inline pump station.

Options: These are significant projects which add a total of \$9.2 million to the draft Plan and thus substantially add to our debt. Council could do a reduced amount of work by limiting the upgrade to Corder Park and deferring some of the major work on Neale Park (at an estimated saving of just over \$2 million). However the planned upgrade will reduce pressure in the pipeline between Neale Park and Corder Park, reducing the risk of further pipe bursts and sewerage leaks. There have been four outflows over the past two years and Council considers it necessary to invest in a solution to avoid polluting Tasman Bay.

Maitai pipeline

A safe and reliable water supply is essential. A multi-stage project to improve water pipeline security from the dam to the city is being undertaken over many years. The pipeline from the dam to the treatment plant has been duplicated over the last three years to provide a more secure supply line to the treatment plant.

It is proposed to complete the link to the city with a duplicate line from the treatment plant to Westbrook Terrace. This section of pipeline was damaged in the 2008 wind storm and Council considered this to be a priority project, following on from completing the duplicate pipe from the dam to the treatment plant. This work was originally programmed for 2020/21 but was brought forward as a result of the Christchurch earthquakes and after in-house assessment of options for proposed routes allowed the detailed design to proceed in 2014/15. The likely cost is \$4.2 million and it will go ahead in 2015/16 and 2016/17.

Options: Delaying the project to reduce costs is an option but until it is complete the benefits of the duplication will not be achieved. Council considers the city's resilience to natural hazards will be enhanced by completion of this project.

Footpaths

As part of our objective for a walkable city Council aims to provide a network of footpaths that is suitable, accessible, safe and well maintained. It may seem like a fairly routine issue to be highlighting in a Long Term Plan but good footpaths are important for maintaining a healthy active community, particularly for our growing number of older residents. Council proposes to make improving the surface condition of footpaths one of its priorities over the next five years.

Priority areas include replacing the sections of the existing footpath network that are in the worst condition, including regrading steep vehicle crossings. To determine which areas should be done first, footpaths across the city have been assessed and prioritised, with \$300,000 allowed per year to repair substandard footpaths.

There is also \$200,000 (plus inflation) allocated per year from 2016/17 for new footpaths, connectivity between footpaths, and safer road crossings, especially around schools and across busy roads.

Options: The cost of work on footpaths is \$5 million across the 10 years of the Plan. It would be possible to spread this work over a longer period to reduce costs in the Plan but given the amount of feedback from residents on footpaths during pre-consultation, we consider this is a high priority for the city.

3. Developing the City

Connections

Nelsonians love their waterfront. Last year Council consulted widely on a proposal for better provision for walkers and cyclists along Rocks Road. Council has worked hard with the NZ Transport Agency to identify a solution for this section of road. This is a partnership project (as this is a State Highway) that involves a ratepayer contribution estimated to be \$3 million and a funding contribution of more than \$13 million from NZ Transport Agency.

Feedback from community engagement on various options showed strong support for a walking and cycling facility that increased the number of users, increased safety, and made the area more attractive. However, there was a real concern about possible conflict between faster cyclists and other users on a shared path, and also the loss of parking. Further analysis is currently being undertaken on the Steering Committee's recommended option. Feedback from the detailed analysis will inform negotiations with NZ Transport Agency.

The City to Sea network – from Maitai to Tahunanui - is a project which Council wishes to complete. The Maitai Walkway and Rutherford Park are important nodes in this network, along with linkages to the marina area (Akersten Street). Previous councils made strategic property purchases in the Haven area to provide options for these links. Resources have been included in the first year of the Plan for integrating the property and transport components of this development. Once the planning is complete, budgets and physical works will follow. The Government's announcement of the Urban Cycleways Fund appears a good fit with this programme.

The impact of the NZ Transport Agency's investigation of a third arterial route between Nelson and Stoke – the Nelson Southern Link – on Council's transport programme is not yet known. Current Council policy is to protect the potential corridor, and no change is proposed.

Council's investment in transport programmes is supported by funding from the NZ Transport Agency. This is subject to a separate consultation process to develop the Regional Land Transport Programme which was begun late last year.

Housing

Nelson shares much in common with the national discussion around housing affordability. Nelson and Tasman councils are in discussions with the Government on a housing accord. Government has changed the criteria for support to social housing (previously known as community housing) and new opportunities have been provided for Community Housing Providers to access rental subsidies. Later in 2015 Council intends to look at this option in more

detail and we will be consulting with the community through a separate process.

Inner city living is another aspect of the housing issue that has long been identified as something that Council should be supporting and encouraging. This was a key component of the 2009 Heart of Nelson study. Last year Council revisited the Heart of Nelson study and also considered if there were other opportunities for the CBD; this again confirmed that inner city living is a priority. There are many benefits for the city and individuals: making use of existing facilities, busier and safer city streets at night, more customers for hospitality and other city businesses, and an increased choice of housing in the region. One and two person households are on the rise and the real estate industry reports high levels of enquiries, including from outside Nelson, about town houses and apartments in the inner city.

Council plays a key role in assisting and encouraging development of inner city living. We are currently:

- Investigating any constraints in infrastructure capacity to accommodate more residents within or close to the CBD
- Working on planning rules in the Nelson Plan to ensure inner city living is supported
- Actively working with developers and industry professionals whenever a proposal for inner city living is put forward

Stoke and Greenmeadows

It is important that Stoke has appropriate facilities and services to support the growth forecast to occur in this suburb. Projects to revitalise Stoke and provide for growth are overdue for funding. Recognition that Stoke is a great place to live has made it Nelson's fastest growing suburb. It will be home to three quarters of Nelson's population growth and half its new housing over the next thirty years.

A new facility at Greenmeadows reserve had been discussed for some years and in 2013/14 a needs analysis was undertaken to better understand the suburb's community and recreation needs. This included a community survey, stakeholder meetings, focus groups and other consultation.

Council received a very strong and consistent response which was used to develop a brief for the project. An external project manager has been appointed, with \$5.6 million set aside in 2015/16 and 2016/17 to build the facility. Council recognises that the new facility is not a project in isolation and wider issues raised through the survey will be tackled in close partnership with the community. The future of Stoke Hall will be considered after further discussion with the community on how it can best fit with the new Greenmeadows facility.

The needs analysis consultation also supported a youth park in Stoke. Funding of \$539,000 has been allocated in 2017/18 and 2018/19 for further consultation, planning and physical works.

At the heart of the Stoke precinct, the library is the suburb's community living room. Along with providing traditional library services and facilities, as well as community education classes and outreach activities, it has become an important social and cultural hub for the people of Stoke. Many of the qualitative responses to the recent Stoke survey noted the library was too small for the numbers of people it serves and their developing and varied needs. The 2011 refurbishment was undertaken within the current floor space. To address the need for more space, an extension is proposed in 2020/21 and \$2.3 million is set aside to achieve this work. As we work through the next stages of the Stoke revitalisation work around the commercial area, this project may be brought forward.

A Parking Survey for central Stoke has recently been completed and a number of parking and transport issues identified for attention. Several projects have been prioritised for the early part of the Long Term Plan including improvements to traffic flows in central Stoke and some analysis of safety and traffic volumes to inform future projects.

The Stoke bus service will also be reviewed including the option of better links between the commercial and residential areas of Stoke. This is subject to a separate consultation process, which began late last year, to develop the Regional Public Transport Plan.

Options: Council has the option of waiting until more comprehensive investigations of the Stoke centre are undertaken before some of these works are begun but feedback from residents has been that a start on improvements is needed now.

Rutherford Park Development

A plan for the development of Rutherford and Trafalgar Parks was adopted by Council in mid 2013 and outlined a programme of possible future works to realise Council's vision of an active urban park. The remedial works required for the Trafalgar Centre has led to the wider enhancement projects being placed on hold.

We have reviewed the programme of works planned for Rutherford Park in light of the need to reduce our debt level and found the total budget allocated previously to be unaffordable. The revised programme focuses on improving the structure and connections of areas of the Park. In the Plan there is now \$1.9million in 2015/16 for roading, carparking and landscaping; \$308,000 for walk/cycle connections in 2016/17; \$529,000 for public toilets and landscaping in 2017/18 and \$445,000 for landscaping and connections to support city to sea links in 2019/20.

These projects are important to support the reopening of the Trafalgar Centre and to create a good framework for future development. However one project which Council feels is a priority, and goes beyond the access and landscaping works above, is provision of a play space near the Maitai shared path. This would attract families into the Park and assist with the aim of increasing activity levels in the Park. Council has allowed \$600,000 of additional funding in 2016/17, half as new funding and half through transfer of funding from its budget for new playgrounds. Understanding that high quality play spaces require a significant investment, Council will be looking for partners to help create an exciting and unique facility which appeals to a wide range of ages.

Options: Council could reduce the investment in Rutherford Park over the 10 years of the Plan but much of the work is considered necessary to support the Trafalgar Centre when it reopens. Removal of the funding for the playground would reduce debt in the Plan but with completion of the Maitai Walkway it is an ideal time to begin increasing use of the Park. Council is looking to share the funding for the playground with other partners to reduce the cost to ratepayers.

Marina

The marina provides permanent and casual berths and associated marine facilities to support boating. The marina returns economic benefits by attracting visitors to Nelson. It provides good, safe facilities, reasonable fees, and a central location with good access to the city for visitors and residents alike. It also allows an efficient use of scarce water space and protects marine environments by concentrating moorings in one area.

The day to day expenses of the marina are funded by revenue from berth-holders and debt is used to fund development. Although the marina is a 'ring fenced' account, any debt in the marina account contributes to Council's overall debt.

Fees for Nelson's marina are much lower than other facilities around the country, even allowing for differences in service provision (a table of comparative charges is available at nelson.govt.nz search = marina fees). It is proposed to increase fees by 4% per year over the Plan and to use that income to assist with debt reduction.

Hardstand provision at the marina is an issue that has remained unresolved for many years. The hardstand and its management has, until now, been provided by a private operator. Creating a new hardstand at the marina was scheduled for completion in 2013/14 but was delayed because Council wanted to take a more comprehensive approach to developments in this area. The potential for land around Akersten Street to be developed to make more of the marina precinct for the city has long been recognised.

Providing adequate area for hardstand is important to the successful functioning of the marina. A total of \$1.5 million has been provided in

2016/17 to allow this project to proceed in a way that integrates with surrounding land development opportunities.

Another project in the marina is a new Sea Sports Facility to house a range of water users from kayakers to sea cadets. The shared area around the marina and boat ramp is becoming a bottleneck and there is need for safe storage of equipment. Changing facilities and a space for clubs to socialise have also been requested. The Nelson Sea Sports Alliance (representing 12 sea sport groups) has put together a proposal for a shared facility. Council has set aside \$578,000 of funding in years 2016/17 and 2017/18 to support a sea sports facility with the expectation the Alliance would fundraise for the remainder.

Options: Marina fees could be kept at current levels but given how low they are compared to other facilities a 4% rise is considered reasonable to assist with debt reduction.

The hardstand could be addressed earlier in the Plan, however Council would not recommend an ad hoc approach which has the potential to lose development return to ratepayers from this scarce and highly valued land resource.

Council could choose not to support the Sea Sports Alliance proposal but it appreciates the growth in the clubs in recent times and the demand for a facility to support them. When a large number of groups can collaborate and share facilities, as in this example, the case for ratepayer support is much stronger.

4. Partnerships

Nelson Nature

Our natural environment is very important to us. It is part of our identity and attracts many people to visit and live in our region.

The Nelson Biodiversity Strategy 2014 aims to create an ecologically rich and sustainable future for Nelson through aligned action on biodiversity by responsible agencies and the community. Council provides administrative support to, and participates in, the Nelson Biodiversity Forum, which was established in 2007 to help develop and implement the Nelson Biodiversity Strategy. The Biodiversity Forum comprises a good cross section of 26 partners with common interests who bring a range of skills and knowledge to the table. The Forum is a strong example of how Council can better assist the community it serves when it does so in partnership.

Nelson Nature is the Biodiversity Management Programme initiated by the Nelson Biodiversity Forum and Council. It will provide for and implement a much more extensive and targeted approach to ensure habitats in our region are protected and enhanced. There are 10 initial projects making up Nelson Nature, including working with Nelson's Significant Natural Areas, terrestrial environments, coastal (cliffs, dunes and estuaries) and freshwater

ecosystems. These projects are being proposed to protect and enhance Nelson's biodiversity by implementing targeted 'actions on the ground'. The Brook Waimarama Sanctuary is supported well through Nelson Nature as its implementation will provide a managed buffer around the Sanctuary to minimise pest pressures on the fence, and also provide a safer environment for any biodiversity overflow coming from the Sanctuary itself.

Comprehensive baseline data will determine the current condition of ecosystems so we can see progress being made and help target future efforts.

Enhanced animal pest and weed control, particularly in areas with high biodiversity values, is important. The major threat to these areas are weeds and pests which are, in some areas, causing loss of biodiversity and increasing costs to manage. Weed control is an important first step when planting trees to enhance biodiversity and allows us to help support the important biodiversity protection work undertaken by community groups, partners and rural landowners. The implementation of the Regional Pest Management Strategy aligns closely to the Nelson Nature programme and its intended outcomes.

Council proposes to contribute new funding in the Long Term Plan towards implementing Nelson Nature (\$500,000 in year 1 rising to \$645,187 in year 4 and increasing by inflation thereafter).

Options: This is a significant amount of operational funding (as opposed to capital projects which are funded over time through loans) and thus has an immediate upward pressure on rates. This council function has had limited budget previously and requires a solid ongoing investment to prevent further loss of precious biodiversity. Council has reduced the first two years of funding from initial proposals, but ultimately decided that managing and enhancing biodiversity is an important intergenerational responsibility of a regional council.

Gondola

In 2013/14 Council provided funding for the Nelson Cycle Lift Society to examine the feasibility of constructing a gondola that would take people and mountain bikes to the top of Fringed Hill. The study suggests the concept is feasible and the Society is now preparing a detailed business case.

Council supports, in principle, the development of the gondola lift and is open to the idea of leasing council owned land if this was identified as the preferred site. It would complement existing recreational activities, including cycling and walking. The project has the potential to develop into a significant tourist attraction alongside neighbouring Brook Sanctuary.

Council acknowledges the voluntary efforts of the Society to date and looks forward to future discussions. The final location of the gondola will be confirmed through the resource consent process and will be subject to the outcome of the Brook Recreation Reserve Management Plan process.

Community Assistance

Community Assistance is the range of support Council provides to not-for-profit groups in our community and includes rates remission, funding agreements, one-off grants, discounted leases and licenses and intermediary loans. In 2013/14 the value of that support to community groups was over \$1million per year.

The Community Assistance Fund has been an important component of that overall support, funding a range of projects that fit with Council's community outcomes, through an annual application round. The Fund received a boost in funding in 2011/12, however, the value of the outcomes delivered to the city for that investment has not increased proportionately.

One of the identified problems has been the large number of small grants that Council approves. In 2013/14 there were 59 contracts and 18 one-off grants. Not only are they expensive in the time they take to administer (both for Council and recipients) but spreading the funds so thinly means groups do not have enough funding to make a significant difference.

Given the significant funding involved, over \$4 million in the life of the Plan, Council has decided a more financially viable and sustainable model is needed that better supports community groups to achieve tangible outcomes. It believes fewer but more significant projects will cost less and deliver more. In future there will not be single, annual funding rounds. Instead, where groups are delivering against key Council priorities, officers will work alongside them to help build cross community partnerships, identify funding and sponsorship opportunities and, where appropriate, recommend that Council provides financial support. These recommendations will be ratified by a panel of Councillors.

This approach fits with the outcomes Nelson 2060 is seeking of people-centred development that builds resilience and a connected community. These changes will see Council officers working out in the community alongside groups delivering tangible outcomes for the city's residents. We want to build stronger relationships with our community and we can do that best when we're out in the community alongside you.

The Community Assistance Fund will be reduced over the next three years to \$150,000 per annum (a staged approach is necessary to allow existing contracts to conclude). This more targeted approach will also release \$100,000 in the first year of the Plan for Council to work in partnership with Canterbury Community Trust assisting homeowners to improve insulation and heating.

Options: Council could retain the existing Community Assistance Fund process and funding but the administrative costs and lack of targeted outcomes suggest a change of approach is needed.

Nelson School of Music

The Nelson School of Music is a key piece of the city's arts infrastructure and has a long association with the internationally regarded Adam Chamber Music Festival. The School is valued by our community for the music training it provides to our young people, as a music performance venue and as a significant heritage building with a world class auditorium. The main auditorium has excellent acoustics and is considered to be one of the best in the Southern Hemisphere for chamber music. However the building was identified as earthquake prone more than two years ago and the Nelson School of Music Trust closed its auditorium to manage this risk.

Council is committed to supporting the Trust with its redevelopment of the School of Music building. Up to \$3 million has been set aside in the draft Plan to support the Trust, on the basis that it raises at least an equal amount from other funders, sponsorship and community fundraising. This replicates the successful partnership model used for the Suter redevelopment, where Nelson's community has shown itself quick to support projects important to it.

This is a significant commitment from ratepayers but Council considers the reopening of the auditorium a priority for its cultural and economic value to Nelson, and the Trust should be able to leverage off Council's commitment to deliver the other funding necessary.

Options: Lesser amounts of funding were considered but for a project of this size it could be difficult for a voluntary trust to raise more than half of the \$6 million it envisages the project will cost.

Nelson Arts Festival

Council will give consideration to the mix of council-produced and council-supported events and festivals with a view to ensuring Nelson has a good mix and range in its calendar. Council proposes that the Nelson Arts Festival would focus on high calibre national and international acts one year and have a more local flavour the next year, with more community produced acts. The aim of focussing on local content in alternate years would be to make the Arts Festival accessible to an even wider audience.

In this Plan Council intends to move to an independent governance structure for the Nelson Arts Festival with a view that a new entity would produce the festival in 2017 and thereafter. Council funding would remain the same but be reviewed once the Trust is established. Most other centres with arts festivals have such a structure and find that artistic control, community ownership and private sponsorship all grow in such an environment. In fact a comparison with similar festivals elsewhere shows that the proportion of funding from Council is more than five times higher in Nelson than in other centres where other forms of support are far more significant.

While it is planned to move the Arts Festival outside Council, we would continue to operate a festival and events team that will produce a wide range of vibrant community events including the much loved Masked Parade and Opera in the Park.

Options: The main advantage of retaining the status quo would be that there are efficiencies in provision of financial, information technology and other support to the Arts Festival and a greater degree of certainty about delivery and funding.

Community Art

The Refinery Art Space building on Halifax Street is owned by Council but has been run as a contemporary art space since 2003, supporting local emerging artists, providing a space for community art exhibitions and highlighting Nelson's wealth of artistic talent.

Council believes there is value in an art space focused on the community and proposes to work with Arts Council Nelson to maintain and expand the use of the building as a gallery and performance venue. New funding of \$30,000 per year over two years is provided to allow the Arts Council to manage the art space on a trial basis. Council will evaluate the community outcomes delivered and the sustainability of the investment during this period.

Management of Council's Arts Fund is also changing with the Fund being reduced to \$75,000 per year from \$125,000 but now being available to match funding of community projects. Previously the Fund had been only available for Council public art projects but now, in keeping with the focus on partnership, Council is opening it up to help fund creative projects driven by the community. In making this change, Council hopes to emulate other cities which have attracted private sector support for its public art.

Options: Council has the option of saving the \$60,000 but this would see the Refinery close its doors and Nelson would have one less community venue at a time when the city's venues, such as the Suter, Trafalgar Centre and Nelson School of Music, are under particular pressure. Providing the funding on a trial basis allows the value of the investment to be reassessed before any ongoing funding is committed.

Light Nelson

Many of you will have visited the hugely popular Light Nelson and its illuminated artworks in Queens Gardens in the winter of 2013 and 2014. Light Nelson Trust has approached Council to work in partnership to help them consolidate their success and establish this as a biennial event on the Nelson arts calendar. It wishes to recognise and build on its past success in receiving funding from Council via the Events Fund.

We are proposing to allocate \$150,000 plus inflation (reducing the Events Fund by this amount) as partnership funding for every two year period in the

Long Term Plan which would provide the Trust with funding certainty to run the event every two years. Confirming Council's partnership approach we expect additional funding to come from other sources to support the event.

Options: This is a significant new investment in the Nelson arts brand and while Council has the option of not supporting the event, we consider this highly successful event will continue to meet the criteria of the Events Fund. Funding this way gives both certainty to organisers and transparency to ratepayers. In pre-consultation the Light Nelson Trust did ask for more funding but Council did not consider this appropriate for affordability reasons.

5. Strong Economy

Business Friendly Council

Council is committed to being an enabler for business opportunities that contribute to our region's sustainable economic development. We will do this by demonstrating leadership and by minimising unnecessary bureaucracy. The development of the Nelson Plan is a key opportunity for Council to engage with businesses on these issues – developers need certainty over where and how Council will provide services, and clarity about the rules that will apply when development is proposed. Council's proposed investment in infrastructural assets will provide the necessary critical services that support the business community. The Council-funded Nelson Regional Economic Development Agency will continue to proactively work with existing businesses and potential investors to identify opportunities for business growth, whilst Council's plans for revitalising our central business district will enhance Nelson as a destination to live and work.

Lions Tour

Council decided in December 2014 to pursue an opportunity for Nelson to host a match in the 2017 British and Irish Lions Tour. The New Zealand Rugby Union has been advised that Council is willing to consider a capped contribution (including cost of staff time) of \$500,000 to secure a fixture and a response is expected by late April. Council recognises the valuable support to the local economy significant events bring to the city. We are continuing to invest in events that bring tourists to our region and build our identity as an exciting place to be.

Options: Council could choose not to bid for a rugby match but it believes putting Nelson on the map with events such as these has many spin-offs for the city.

Economic Development Services

There is a review underway of the structure and funding of several agencies delivering economic development services to Council: Nelson Tasman Tourism (NTT), the Nelson Regional Economic Development Agency (EDA) and Uniquely Nelson. Recent changes saw Tasman District Council's shareholding

in Nelson Tasman Tourism transferred to Nelson City Council and from 1 July 2015 base funding will be provided by Nelson City Council. Tasman District Council has indicated that it wishes to continue to provide financial support for economic development and regional marketing services, but that it will now contract for these directly with this Council.

With Nelson City Council now the 100% shareholder of EDA and NTT and the sole funder of Uniquely Nelson there is an opportunity to look at different, more effective ways of doing business in this area. One model that we will be considering is a single tourism, events and economic development agency to provide services in a more integrated way. Council's aim is to achieve a service which better supports our community to do business, grow the regional economy and develop a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.

Some cost efficiencies in the order of \$200,000 per year have been factored into the combined funding of the three agencies from 2016/17, the second year of the Plan.

Options: Council could continue to deliver the services much as they have been but considers the review has great potential to improve regional economic outcomes.

Central Business District Enhancement

The economic health and vitality of the central city is a priority for Council. We know that the success of the CBD depends on the quality of the shopping experience, the range of interesting events, the design of the buildings and streetscape. Despite recent and planned big box developments elsewhere, the Nelson CBD continues to hold its place as the economic and social hub of the region. However we cannot afford to be complacent about CBD quality and Council has set aside \$894,000 in the years 2015/16 to 2018/19 for capital projects to enhance the CBD. The Council deliberately does not have a set of proposed projects to put forward in the Long Term Plan as it wishes the work to be a collaboration with business and other key CBD stakeholders. A CBD panel will be established to advise which projects should be top priority for ratepayer support.

Parking in the CBD is an issue that has attracted attention over many years. Council has trialled some new approaches over the last 12 months to support a dynamic, competitive CBD. All parking systems come at a cost and Council must ensure its system is equitably managed.

Budget is proposed in 2017/18 to 2018/19 for all off-street parking meters to be replaced with modern technology that includes more ways to pay and the ability to extend your stay remotely through a smart phone app. Council will continue to monitor technology changes to ensure we have a well functioning and affordable parking system.

Council proposes to continue to fund its current "first hour free" parking

scheme all year round. This will result in a reduction of revenue of \$585,000 excluding GST per year that will be met in part through an adjustment to the inner city commercial differential rate.

Options: An alternative would be to return to previous paid parking rules, however feedback from both businesses in the CBD and residents is that the parking trial changes have been positive.

Waimea Community Dam

As a response to the over-allocation of ground water on the Waimea Plains, Tasman District Council facilitated the establishment of the Waimea Water Augmentation Committee in 2003. The committee comprises representatives from the irrigators, iwi, Tasman District Council, Nelson City Council, Fish & Game and Department Of Conservation. The recommendation of the committee is to construct a water detention dam on the Lee River in the foothills behind Brightwater. The dam would hold winter flows and release them to the river throughout the year, allowing the underground aquifers to recharge and ensuring there is a good minimum flow in the river for the wider regional environmental and recreational benefits. Now that the design is nearly complete and the necessary consents are underway Tasman District Council is seeking funding for the construction stage, estimated to cost \$60-\$80 million.

The main reasons for a Nelson City contribution towards construction costs would be: the economic benefit Nelson City receives from activities on the Waimea Plains; the environmental and recreational benefits from healthy rivers in the region and the direct benefit a small number of South Nelson City homes and businesses receive from the water that is supplied to them by Tasman District Council. Putting a price on the value of the Waimea Plains and the Lee and Waimea Rivers is a difficult task. The New Zealand Institute for Economic Research has recently updated estimates of the economic benefits and impacts on the Nelson-Tasman Region arising from the dam and no-dam scenarios. They conclude that there is an expected increase in regional Gross Domestic Product of \$600 - \$750 million (present values) over the 25 years following the construction of the dam.

Council has commissioned the New Zealand Institute for Economic Research to evaluate the economic and environmental/recreational benefits specifically for Nelson City that may flow from constructing the proposed dam. This report has drawn the following conclusions: (report due February). At this stage no specific allocation has been made in the draft Plan but headroom for the debt associated with a possible contribution has been allowed for in 2018/19 to align with construction phases should the dam proceed.

Key Relationships

Iwi Māori

Council continues to uphold the values and principles under The Treaty of Waitangi Te Tau Ihu settlement acts and associated legislation. We accept these as the minimum requirement for the relationship with iwi but we work together to achieve more.

We understand responsibilities around delivering relevant redress under any Treaty Settlement in terms of the Local Government Act 2002 and associated legislation.

Treaty of Waitangi Settlement legislation for Te Tau Ihu was enacted in August 2014 and outlines the Council's obligations and relationship with iwi. This was hugely significant for the Council iwi relationship.

Council continues to uphold the principles in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Tangata Whenua o Whakatū and mata waka, Māori from other tribal areas. It believes that working in partnership with Māori will create benefits for the whole community.

For many years, Council has worked with iwi and Māori to ensure there are a range of opportunities to contribute to Council decision making. In 2015/16 work will be done to define how the governance and operational relationship between Nelson City Council, iwi and the wider community will be developed. Opportunities will be enhanced and processes adapted to ensure they work well for all the Whakatū (Nelson) communities.

Nelson City Council and iwi have agreed that the spirit of the partnership is based on the following shared values:

- To respect one another's customs, social expectations, beliefs and values
- To enter into the relationship with openness and honesty, focusing on developing a better understanding of one another
- To come together with the common aim of taking care of Nelson City and its resources for present and future generations, as guardians of the rohe (area)
- To provide opportunities to further the involvement of iwi of Te Tau Ihu in the decision-making processes of Nelson City Council.

Tasman District Council

Nelson City Council works closely with its neighbouring Council on a range of regional issues and shared services such as joint ownership of facilities like the airport or joint planning such as through the Regional Land Transport Plan. Collaboration between the two councils benefits the wider region and results in better provision of services to ratepayers.

Council considers that within the next three years, another look at the

possibilities of amalgamation would be appropriate. We need to examine how our two neighbouring councils do business and whether there are compelling benefits from a joint operation.

Your Rates

If Council implements the draft Plan, as outlined through the key projects above, what would that mean for your rates? We have put together a few examples showing the effect on rates on properties with different land values across the city.

You can also check what your 2015/16 rates would be under this proposed Plan by going to the rates search link at www.nelson.govt.nz (search = my rates) and typing in your address.

Proposed rates increases based on 2012 valuations (including an average \$540 water charge in 2015/16)

Summary of Draft Rates Increases for representative properties within the City	Land Value (2012 valuation)	2014/15 Rates	2015/16 Proposed Rates	% Increase on 2014/15	\$ Increase from 2014/15
Proposed residential rates	\$85,000	\$2,099.30	\$2,103.90	0.22	\$4.60
	\$105,000	\$2,222.80	\$2,243.50	0.93	\$20.70
	\$136,000	\$2,414.30	\$2,450.20	1.49	\$35.90
	\$185,000	\$2,716.90	\$2,798.90	3.02	\$82.00
	\$215,000	\$2,902.10	\$2,989.90	3.03	\$87.80
	\$315,000	\$3,519.70	\$3,704.90	5.26	\$185.20
	\$420,000	\$4,168.10	\$4,386.40	5.24	\$218.30
	\$580,000	\$5,156.10	\$5,667.40	9.92	\$511.30

It is important to note that these properties are a sample and do not cover all situations across the rating base.

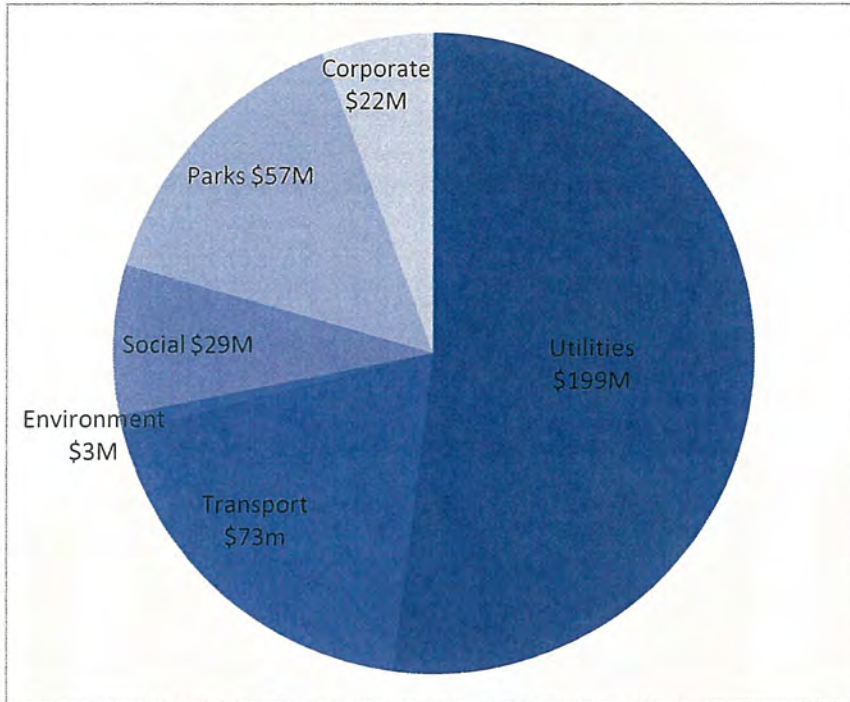
Council's Finances

What are my rates used for?

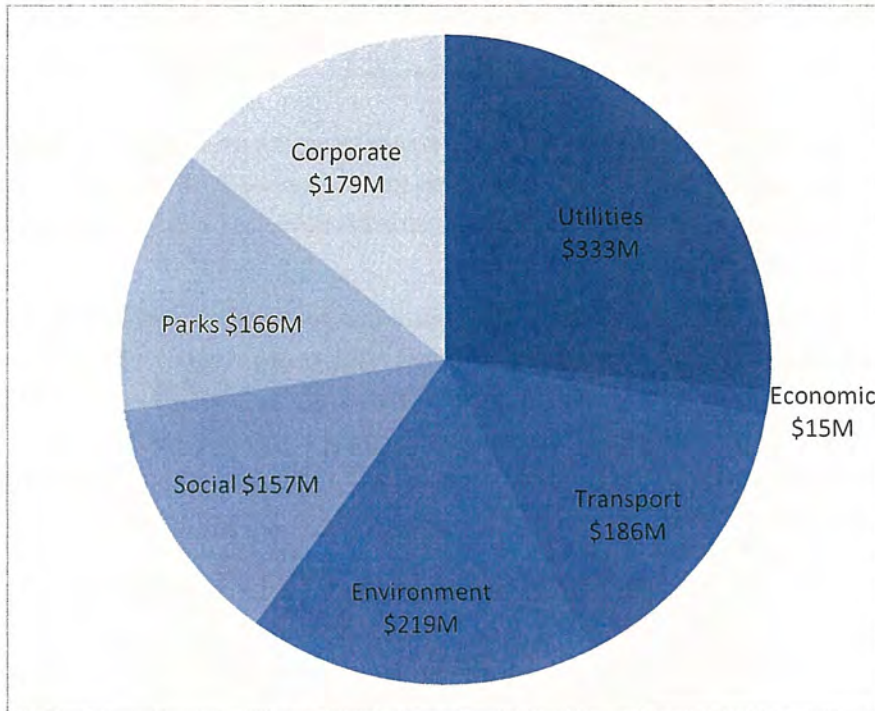
The following charts show what we propose to spend your rates on over the 10 years of the Plan across Council activities:

- utilities (stormwater, flood protection, wastewater, water supply)
- transport
- environment (eg consents, solid waste, emergency management)

- social (eg museum, heritage, libraries, festivals)
- parks (eg mountain bike trails, Trafalgar Centre, golf course)
- economic (eg tourism, job growth)
- corporate (eg elections, administration, properties)



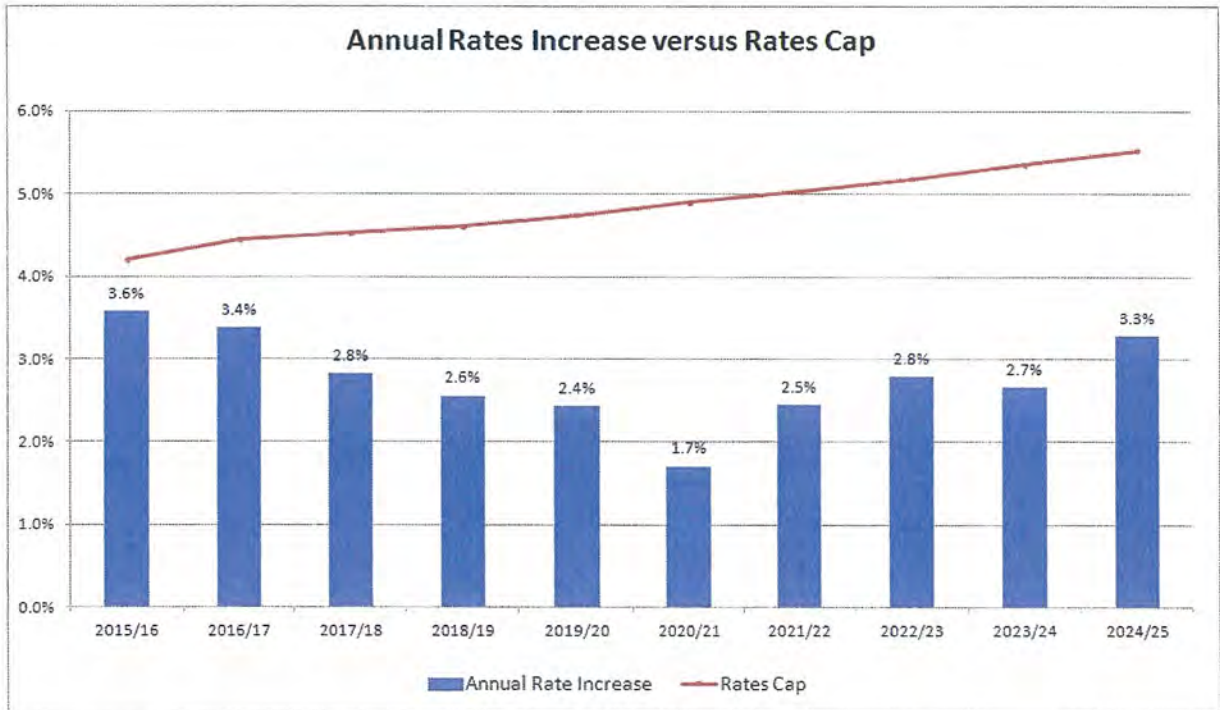
Capital: things we build



Operational: things we do

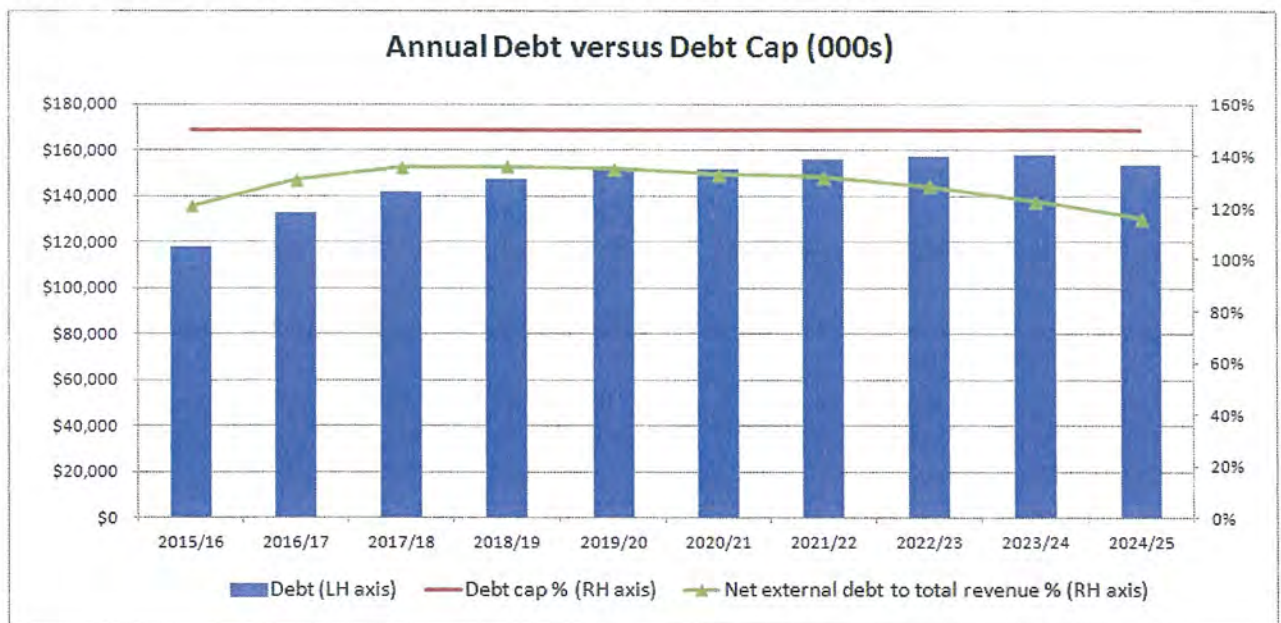
Financial Strategy

Our Long Term Plan includes a detailed financial strategy which describes how we plan to sustainably finance our services and activities over the next ten years. To develop this we have considered the likely future demand for services, what that will cost, the ability and willingness of ratepayers to pay for services and fairness in allocating rates. Council has set itself a cap on rates rises each year of no more than 2% plus the local government cost index and growth. The following graph shows proposed rates increases against the cap.



We fund our work programme through a mix of rates and debt. At June 2014, our net debt was \$71.8 million. Initial projections based on previous Long Term Plan and asset management plan requirements saw this peak well over \$200 million by the end of the 10 years.

Council decided that level of debt was unaffordable and significant reductions have been made across the 10 year period. However, much of the increase in debt is to provide for critical infrastructure and our growing region. Critically important to Council has been staying well under the debt/revenue ratio limit. This is a useful measure comparing how much debt we have to the amount of income Council is receiving each year – our limit is set at 150%.



The Council must, under the Local Government Act 2002, manage its revenues, expenses and assets, liabilities, investments and general financial dealings prudently. It must manage in a manner that sustainably promotes the community's current and future interests.

The Financial Strategy demonstrates how Council will:

- Provide for growth in its region and manage changes in land use
- Ensure that the level of rates and borrowing are financially sustainable and are kept within pre-set limits
- Be accountable for maintaining the assets that it owns on behalf of the community
- Fund network infrastructure and maintain levels of service
- Obtain pre-set returns on financial investments and equity securities
- Give securities on borrowing.

In preparing the Long Term Plan and this Financial Strategy, Council considered the balance of:

- Service levels, the costs of these services and the money required to achieve those levels of service
- Priorities for expenditure across all activities
- How to minimise rates and charges across the full 10 year period of this Long Term Plan while achieving the targeted levels of service
- The level of debt that current and future ratepayers would need to fund
- The level of growth that is expected in the next twenty years and beyond.

Overall, Council considers that it is financially sustainable and able to provide important services to residents, businesses and visitors.

The full Financial Strategy is available at nelson.govt.nz search = financial strategy.

Changes to Levels of Service

A review of levels of service is proposed in the first three years of the draft Plan which may reveal some areas where reduced levels of service will offer useful savings or efficiencies without impacting on the key outcomes Council seeks to achieve. This is part of Council's continuous improvement approach and will include development of robust business cases for all projects.

There are some areas where levels of service are proposed to increase over the life of the Plan: for stormwater and flood protection, footpaths and for protection of biodiversity through the Nelson Nature project.

Changes to Funding System and Arrangements

Rating carry forward: Council has previously used any operating savings (rating carry forward) from the current year to offset the rates increase in the next year. Council considers it would be more financially prudent to use any savings over \$500,000 in that year to reduce council debt.

Stormwater and flood protection rate: It is proposed to split the

Stormwater and Flood Protection Rate into two components: 50% a fixed charge of \$141.80 per rating unit and 50% a variable charge based on the capital value of the rating unit. The rationale for this is the higher the capital value of the rating unit, the more there is to protect, and hence the ratepayer should pay a higher proportion of the rate. One of the consequences of this proposal would be that utilities such as power companies, commercial properties and Council itself, would pay a much higher proportion of this rate than previously. The commercial differential has been increased in response to this.

Rates due date: Rates instalments are currently due on the 27th day of August, November, February, and May (or the first business day after if this falls on a weekend or public holiday). In response to feedback from the community that the current due dates are confusing, Council is proposing to change the date that instalments are due in each of these instances to the 20th of the month. If the 20th of the month is a weekend or public holiday then the rates instalment would be due the next business day. This change is in line with generally accepted business practice and will result in a net financial benefit to Council as most companies require payment on the 20th of the month. The Council will continue to ensure that it meets the legal requirement of delivering rates invoices to the ratepayer at least 14 days before the due date.

Commercial differential: 25% of the reduced revenue as a result of provision of one hour of free parking in the central business district is proposed to be charged to the businesses that benefit through an adjustment to the inner city commercial differential rate. At the same time the cost of the NBus public transport subsidy is being removed as a charge against the commercial differential.

Water charges in Nelson South: There will be some changes to charging for residents in Nelson South near the boundary with Tasman District Council. In this area our neighbouring Council has traditionally provided and charged for water. As a result of the imminent conclusion of a water supply agreement between the councils, Nelson City Council will now purchase water in bulk from Tasman District Council and then supply and charge Nelson residents in that area. Charging will be on the same basis as for all other Nelson residents and will result in a decrease for the affected residents.

Development Contributions

Summary to be inserted once the draft policy has been approved by the Governance Committee on 3 March.

Infrastructure Strategy

The Infrastructure Strategy is a synthesis of significant infrastructural issues that are likely to arise over the next 30 years, including their financial and non-financial consequences, and the principal options for managing them. The Strategy is required to cover the five core infrastructure categories of water

supply, stormwater, flood protection, wastewater and transport.

The strategy outlines:

- The key infrastructural issues that need addressing over the next 30 years
- The main options for dealing with these issues
- The cost and delivery implications of those options.

With the longer timeframe of the Infrastructure Strategy Council will be able to identify at an early stage any issues that will impact on core infrastructure and plan how to address these. The Strategy includes an assessment of the impact that natural disasters and climate change may have on our assets, how quickly we could restore services after an event and the costs of building in the necessary resilience to our networks. It looks at what new infrastructure might be required, any changes that might be needed to levels of service and what would happen if any of the assumptions our planning is based on turn out to be incorrect.

The infrastructure strategy applies asset management practices to the strategic issues and describes how they might be managed during the 30 year period. This includes considering:

- opportunities to reduce costs
- means to reduce adverse impacts on the environment
- opportunities to extend the life of the assets
- risks to the assets related to issues like sea level rise, flooding and earthquakes
- the effects of population growth (and changing demographics) on the provision of services

Below are the issues that the Infrastructure Strategy has considered.

Integrating Growth and Infrastructure

Nelson is expected to have an extra 5,100 households over the next 30 years. This can be accommodated by developing new areas or through more comprehensively using land and buildings in existing residential areas. However work is needed to understand the capacity in our existing urban areas to see where current pipes, roads etc are able to take the extra volume of users and where we might have to spend more money to increase capacity. Some of the new areas for development are expensive to deliver infrastructure to so the cost of growing the city into these areas needs to be assessed.

Changes in Levels of Service

Council expects to have to increase its levels of service in a number of areas,

either to meet new requirements from central government eg to meet environmental standards, or to meet higher expectations from our residents. The affordability of these changes and our ability to continue delivering existing levels of service needs to be assessed. It may be necessary to trade off an increase in one area with a decrease elsewhere. Regional cooperation and service sharing might bring savings.

Sea Level Rise

It is expected that much of Nelson's coastal area, the Wood, Central City, Tahuna, the airport and Monaco will be affected by sea level rise including erosion, stormwater surge (flooding due to overloading of the stormwater network), wave setup (higher water levels in the surf zone) and wave run up (waves coming further up the beach). Assets likely to be affected include wastewater treatment plants, pump stations and pipelines; low lying roads and bridges; water pipelines.

Continuous monitoring of the trends will be used to check actual sea level rise against predictions. At this stage there is no need for urgent changes to our infrastructure but in the long run we expect to need to move some assets and retreat out of risk areas and where that is not possible to do our best to protect remaining assets.

Flooding

Climate change is predicted to change rainfall patterns with increased rainfall expected for the region. This in turn is expected to lead to more severe and frequent flooding. This may combine with sea level rise to reduce the flow of water out to sea and result in more sediment being deposited near river mouths, further increasing flood risk.

Much of Nelson's floodplain has been built on and this has reduced the ability of rivers and streams to carry water away during high rainfall. With development close to the edges of rivers and streams there is often a three-way balancing act between reducing risks to nearby properties, the cost of protective works and preserving the natural values of streams and rivers. An ongoing dialogue is needed with the community about where the appropriate balance lies for each situation.

Drought

Climate change is also expected to lead to increases in drought events in the Nelson Tasman region. This is likely to translate to more summer droughts. Current peak daily demand calculations show that Nelson has sufficient water to maintain supply requirements for the projected population increases until at least 2035 as long as current abstraction rates remain in place.

Earthquakes/Liquefaction

Nelson Tasman has a number of regional faultlines and is close to the

Southern Alpine faultline. The areas around Tahuna, the Wood, the Port and parts of the central city are expected to be more susceptible to liquefaction. Given the unpredictability of earthquakes the main way to reduce risk is to choose sound locations for infrastructure and use construction methods that are more robust in the face of shaking. Plans to get infrastructure up and running again quickly after an event are important.

Conclusion

Council needs to find a balance between community desires, legislative requirements and affordability when planning its infrastructure. The 30 year Infrastructure Strategy is a useful tool for you to see how we look at core infrastructure in a coordinated way, assessing risks and planning well ahead for ways to reduce them. Collaboration with Tasman District Council will be an important method for delivering more efficient services in some areas, given the reliance our communities have on infrastructure provided by our neighbouring Council.

The Infrastructure Strategy will be updated every three years. The full Infrastructure Strategy can be found on nelson.govt.nz. (search = infrastructure strategy).

Audit Opinion

Insert – allow two pages

Submissions

We want to hear your feedback on this consultation document and encourage you to get involved. The public consultation runs from 24 March to 24 April 2015. You can send in your feedback by:

- providing written feedback using the form attached and send to freepost address provided or email to submissions@ncc.govt.org
- going online and filling out the form at nelson.govt.nz

If you have questions about specific issues or how to get involved you can call Council on 03 546 0200 from 8.30am to 5.00pm weekdays and staff will assist. If you want more information there is a draft of the full Long Term Plan 2015-25 available to provide additional information online at nelson.govt.nz and in hard copy at Nelson public libraries and the Council Customer Service Centre on the corner of Trafalgar and Halifax Streets.

How to make a submission

Remember to have your say – online or in writing. You can make a submission online at the Council's website, nelson.govt.nz, at Civic House, 110 Trafalgar Street, Nelson, or any of the Nelson Public Libraries. More information is available in all these locations, or you can phone 546 0200 to ask for it to be posted.

All submissions will be considered by the Mayor and Councillors before making a decision.

Anyone can make a submission. All submissions, including the names and contact details of submitters, are publicly available, as required by the Local Government Act 2002. Submissions will be used only for the purposes of this consultation process.

Early submissions are appreciated, to help submission processing.

Identify your submission

Please make sure you attach the cover sheet/submission form to any submission you make to assist in tracking submissions. Please number all the pages of your submission and put your name at the bottom of all pages. This will help if any become detached from your cover sheet. If you choose not to use this cover sheet, please include your name, address and contact telephone number. This is so we can contact submitters who wish to speak at the hearings, and so we can reply to you with the result of Council's deliberations on submissions.

Make it readable

Type your submission if possible, or use black ink and write legibly on one side of paper only. This will ensure the photocopies we make of your submission will be easy to read.

Separate headings

Divide your submission into separate points if you want to comment on more than one part, to help Council understand your submission better. For each point, say specifically to which part(s) your submission relates. Say concisely what your concern is OR what you support. Tell us the reasons why you support or oppose this part, and say how you want the Council to respond to your submission.


Send your submission to: Freepost 76919
Consultation
Nelson City Council
PO Box 645
Nelson 7040

or deliver to: ground floor
Civic House
110 Trafalgar Street
Nelson

or: By email to
submissions@ncc.govt.nz

or: any Nelson Public
Library

PO Box 645 • Nelson 7040
03 546 0200 • nelson.govt.nz

 **Nelson City Council**
te kaunihera o whakatū

Temporary Road Closures

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For Council to approve/decline two temporary road closures for events proposed on the following dates:
- Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon: 8 March 2015;
 - Organised Stopping Distance Demonstrations: 16, 17, 19 and 20 March 2015.

2. Delegations

- 2.1 The Local Government Act 1974, Schedule 10, confirms that approvals for temporary road closures for event related activities lie with Council.

3. Recommendation

THAT the report Temporary Road Closures (A1308395) and its attachments (A1309946, A1309949) be received;

AND THAT Council either approve/decline the application for the Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon temporary road closure of Beach Road from 17 Beach Road to Golf Road, and Golf Road from Beach Road to Parkers Road and Hounsell Circle, on 8 March 2015;

AND THAT Council either approve/decline the application for the Organised Safe Stopping Site Distance Demonstrations temporary road closure of Nile Street on 16 March 2015, Bisley Walk on 17 March 2015, Tipahi Street on 19 March 2015.

4. Background

- 4.1 Council resolved at its meeting of 19 January 2014 as below:

AND THAT the Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon temporary road closure be considered at a meeting on 12 February 2015;

AND THAT the Organised Stopping Distance Demonstrations temporary road closures be considered at a meeting on 12 February 2015.

5. Discussion

Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon

- 5.1 In early January 2015, Council officers received a temporary road closure application from Sport Tasman for the annual Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon. This closure is proposed for Sunday 8 March 2015 from 6:00am until midday.
- 5.2 The Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon is a national sports participation event run for school aged children. The event requires the temporary closure of:
- Beach Road (from 17 Beach Road to Golf Road);
 - Golf Road (from Beach Road to Parkers Road);
 - Hounsell Circle.
- 5.3 An advertisement calling for the views of affected properties was placed in the Nelson Mail on Saturday 24 January 2015. The organiser also contacted adjoining properties, notifying them of the event.
- 5.4 Feedback closes 9 February 2015 – at time of writing no feedback had been received.
- 5.5 This is an annual event with a proven track record. Therefore Officers foresee no issues with the operation of this closure.

Organised Stopping Distance Demonstrations

- 5.6 In March 2015 Council officers propose to hold the Organised Stopping Distance Demonstrations as part of a road safety campaign to show how long it takes for a car to stop when travelling at different speeds. The temporary closures are required between 5:30 pm until 7:30 pm at four separate locations on four different dates.
- 5.7 Access to and from properties within the closed sections of road will be provided if necessary, but there may be delays of up to 15 minutes. The event requires the temporary closure of:
- Nile Street (from Alton Street to Collingwood Street) on Monday 16 March 2015;
 - Bisley Walk (Tahunanui Beach Reserve by the playing fields) on Tuesday 17 March 2015;
 - Tipahi Street (from Tukuka Street to Motueka Street) on Thursday 19 March 2015;
 - Atawhai Crescent (from the north intersection with State Highway 6 to Rainbow Drive) on Friday 20 March 2015.

- 5.8 An advertisement calling for the views of affected properties was placed in the Nelson Mail on Saturday 24 January 2015. The organiser also contacted adjoining properties, notifying them of the event.
- 5.9 Feedback closes 9 February 2015 – at time of writing no feedback had been received.
- 5.10 This is an annual event managed in conjunction with the Police. Therefore Officers foresee no issues with the operation of this closure.

6. Options

- 6.1 In each case Council has two options, either to allow or decline the road closure applications.
- 6.2 For each closure, Council Officers can confirm they have received:
- An appropriate, approved traffic management plan;
 - The approval of emergency services (Police, Fire and Ambulance) as part of the traffic management plan approval;
 - Public liability insurance.
- 6.3 Council Officers recommend that both closures be approved.

7. Assessment of Significance against the Council's Significance Policy

- 7.1 The recommendations outlined in this report are not considered significant in terms of the Council's Significance Policy.

8. Alignment with relevant Council Policy

- 8.1 The recommendations outlined in this report are directly aligned to the requirements of:
- The Local Government Act 1974, Schedule 10, Temporary Prohibition of Traffic;
 - The Local Government Act 2002, Clause 78, Community Views in Relation to Decisions.
- 8.2 Council may wish to consider the applications in the context of the attractiveness and vibrancy they add to Nelson for its residents.

9. Consultation

- 9.1 Council's current temporary road closure procedures enable Council officers to seek the views and preferences of those directly affected by any proposed closure in accordance with Clause 78 of the Local Government Act 2002. Any objections or feedback received will be reported to Council to inform any decisions made to approve the temporary closures or not.

10. Inclusion of Māori in the decision making process

10.1 Māori have not been consulted.

11. Conclusion

11.1 This report covers two temporary road closures for events in March 2015 for approval or not by Council.

Shane Davies

Manager Operations

Attachments

Attachment 1: Weetbix Kids TRYathlon, extent of road closure [A1309946](#)

Attachment 2: Organised Stopping Distance Demonstrations, extent of road closure [A1309949](#)

Attachment 1

Road Closure for Weetbix Kids TRYathlon—Beach Road and Golf Road



Attachment 2

Road Closure for Stopping Distance Demonstrations—Tipahi Street



Road Closure for Stopping Distance Demonstrations—Nile Street East



Road Closure for Stopping Distance Demonstrations—Atawhai Crescent

